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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 040679/1333

In re patent application of

Hiroshi AKAMA et al.

Serial No.: 09/930,279

Group Art Unit: 2855

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: H. T. Tran

For: EXHAUST GAS PURIFYING SYSTEM AND METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

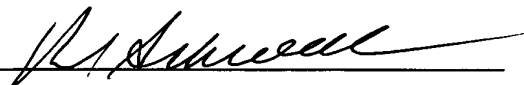
In response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2004, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-23 and 26, for prosecution in the subject application.

Upon allowance of the elected claims, Applicants will be permitted to request rejoinder in accordance with MPEP 821.04 and *In re Ochiai*, 71 F.3d 1565 USPQ2d 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1995) of claims 27-31, if appropriate.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

OCT 20 2004
Date _____

By 

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